

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, to read as follows:

1-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group of sequences:

(i) Met-Thr-Met-Pro-Thr-Met (SEQ ID NO: 1);

(ii) Pro-Leu-Pro-Gln-Met-Leu (SEQ ID NO: 2); and

(iii) Thr-Asn-Pro-Asn-Arg-Arg-Asn-Arg-Thr-Pro-Gln-Met-Leu-Lys-Arg (SEQ ID NO: 3);

or a functional variant thereof which is at least 80% identical to the recited sequence and which retains its ability to bind to a causative agent of a disease or a disorder, said causative agent having SOD activity, and inhibit the causative agent's SOD and/or metal binding ability.

28. (Currently Amended) A peptide according to claim ~~26~~ 27 that binds at or near a copper binding site of A $\beta$  and physically prevents the binding of copper.

29. (Currently Amended) A peptide according to claim ~~26~~ 27 wherein the peptide binds at or near amino acids 5-14 of human A $\beta$ .

30. (Currently Amended) A peptide according to claim ~~26~~ 27 wherein the peptide binds at or near amino acids 8-14 of human A $\beta$ .

31. (Currently Amended) A peptide according to claim ~~26~~ 27 wherein the peptide binds at or near amino acid 13 of human A $\beta$ .

32. (Currently Amended) A peptide according to claim ~~26~~ 27 that binds to A $\beta$  and disrupts the conformation (or 3-D structure) of the copper binding site to reduce or totally remove its ability to bind copper and/or its SOD activity.

33. (Original) A peptide according to claim 32 that binds and disrupts the conformation of amino acids 5-14 of human A $\beta$ .

34. (Original) A peptide according to claim 32 that binds and disrupts the conformation of amino acids 8-14 of human A $\beta$ .

35. (Original) A peptide according to claim 32 that binds and disrupts the conformation of amino acid 13 of human A $\beta$ .

36. (Currently Amended) A peptide according to claim ~~26~~ 27 that binds to A $\beta$  and reduces or totally removes its SOD activity whilst still allowing the A $\beta$  to bind copper.

37. (Currently Amended) A functional variant of the peptides of claim ~~26~~ 27.

38. (Currently Amended) A non peptide peptidomimetic of a peptide according to claim ~~26~~ 27.

39. (Currently Amended) A polynucleotide encoding any one of the peptides of claims ~~26~~ 27.

40-44. (Cancelled)

45. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a peptide according to claim ~~26~~ 27 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Currently Amended) A deletion functional variant of the peptide Thr-Asn-Pro-Asn-Arg-Arg-Asn-Arg-Thr-Pro-Gln-Met-Leu-Lys-Arg (SEQ ID NO: 3) which retains its ability to bind to a causative agent of a disease or disorder, said causative agent having SOD activity, and inhibit the causative agent's SOD and/or metal ion binding ability.